(b) whether Government have formulated any concrete plan to end distress being caused by the power crisis in the national capital of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) National Electricity Policy, *inter-alia*, envisages that demand of power be fully met by 2012 and that energy and peaking shortages be overcome with 5% spinning reserve being available. States have been accordingly advised to create adequate generation capacity to fully meet the growing demand of the electricity. Central Government on its part has geared up its Central Sector Undertakings to enhance their generating capacity.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Power has facilitated signing of Memorandum of Understanding/Power Purchase Agreement by Delhi Transco Ltd. (DTL) with Tehri Hydro Development Corporation and National Thermal Power Corporation for a total of about 1574 MW of power. Delhi is expected to have additional power availability from Tehri HEP (4x250 MW) as well as thermal stations of the Eastern Region in lieu of Tala power (6x170 MW) allocated to Eastern Region constituents, which are likely to be commissioned in phases starting from July/August, 2007.

In addition, all possible assistance is provided from time to time to meet immediate requirements, by way of utilization of capacity of gas-based stations on liquid fuel and additional allocation from unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations.

Financial assistance has also been provided to Delhi under Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme (APDRP) for improvement of sub-transmission and distribution system as a major step towards reduction of aggregate technical and commercial losses.

Vacant posts and pending cases in courts

*4.SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed all the State Governments and UTs to draw out a schedule for timely filling up of vacancies of judges to clear pending litigations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what was the volume of pendency of cases in the High Courts in 2005 and how far it has increased since 2004?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court in its recent judgment dated 3.4.2006 in C.A. No. 1867 of 2006 (arising out of SLP(C) No. 22523 of 2005)-in the matter of Malik Mazhar Sultan & Anr. *Vs* U.P. Public Service Commission & Ors. has directed all the States and UTs to strictly adhere to time schedule ensuring timely filling of vacancies.

In the above mentioned judgment, the Supreme Court has observed that the adherence to strict time schedule can ensure timely filling of vacancies and directed all State Governments, Union Territories and High Courts to provide for time schedule so that every year vacancies that may occur are timely filled. The Apex Court has directed all State Governments, Union Territories and High Courts to file within three months details of the time schedule so fixed and date from which time schedule so fixed would be operational.

As per available information, the volume of pendency in the High Courts is as given below:-

As on	Pendency
31.12.2005	35,31,774
31.12.2004	33,79,033
% increase	4.52%

Electrification of villages

*5.SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched 'Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana' with an aim to provide electricity to every home within five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;